

Moniz-Carroll, Rhonda

From: donna campbell <dmc99@me.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 28, 2015 10:06 PM
To: JudTestimony
Subject: Early Prison Release

I think that we SHOULD have early release programs. I feel there are too many people in prison. I think the system has spiraled out of control and our citizens are too easily thrown in jail and imprisoned for excessive periods of time. Many sentences are too long and too harsh. The prison system is flawed but NOT because of an early release program.

Prison life is harsh and damaging and I truly believe most people would welcome a second chance, as would their families, to be released early and they should be given that opportunity. We don't need to be warehousing people, that needs to change. People are not commodities or numbers and circumstances surrounding every case should be applicable, you are not just the charges filed against you and unless someone is truly dangerous they shouldn't be thrown in prison or kept in prison for excessive sentences but rather an alternative, on the outside, should be considered. Punishment for the sake of punishment where they are truly not dangerous is wrong and destructive.

Also, I would not leave it up to the prison warden to review and sign off on risk reduction credits, the inside of a prison is not always trustworthy, people are flawed and I would not leave it up to one person (i.e. the warden) to decide someone's fate, the structure of the system should decide not the warden. Prisons should be a place of rehabilitation and there should be incentives in prison to do well.

Finally, I think our prison system is corrupt, immoral and inmates are being treated as commodities for profit and it really upset me that prison companies like Correction Corporation of America promises to "keep the jails at least 90 percent full." That should NOT be our goal. Where is the incentive to decrease the prison population? How can you possibly justify punishment for profit? Prisons SHOULD NOT BE FOR PROFIT!

We need to find ways to reduce the prison population and help people find success when they are released and we need a more cooperative and rehabilitative system which would include an early release program.

Sincerely,
Donna Campbell